

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-33 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 34-43 as follows:

- Sub B2
- 34.(New) A stent comprising:
- a plurality of interconnected first expansion struts, the first expansion struts forming a first serpentine expansion column having a proximal end region and a distal end region,
 - a plurality of interconnected second expansion struts, the second expansion struts forming a second serpentine expansion column having a proximal end region and a distal end region,
 - a first connecting strut column comprising a plurality of first connecting struts, each first connecting strut having a first end extending from the distal end region of the first serpentine expansion column, a second end extending from the proximal end region of the second serpentine expansion column and at least one curved region between the first end and the second end of the first connecting strut, the first end of the first connecting strut longitudinally and circumferentially offset from the second end of the first connecting strut.
- 35.(New) The stent of claim 34 wherein the first expansion struts and the first connecting struts are provided in a ratio of 2:1.
- 36.(New) The stent of claim 34 wherein the first expansion column comprises a plurality of loops in the distal end region and a plurality of loops in the proximal end region, the second expansion column comprises a plurality of loops in the distal end region and a plurality of loops in the proximal end region, and each first connecting strut has a first end which extends from a side of one loop in the distal end region of the first expansion column and a second end which extends from a side of one loop in the proximal end region of the second expansion column.
- 37.(New) A stent comprising:
- a plurality of interconnected first expansion struts, the first expansion struts forming a first expansion column having a proximal end region and a distal end region, each first expansion strut connected only at a proximal end to one first expansion strut adjacent thereto and only at a distal end to another first expansion strut adjacent thereto;
 - a plurality of interconnected second expansion struts, the second expansion struts forming

Sub 32
a second expansion column having a proximal end region and a distal end region, each second expansion strut connected only at a proximal end to one second expansion strut adjacent thereto and only at a distal end to another second expansion strut adjacent thereto;

a first connecting strut column comprising a plurality of first connecting struts, each first connecting strut having a first end extending from the distal end region of the first expansion column, a second end extending from the proximal end region of the second expansion column and at least one curved region between the first end and the second end of the connecting strut, the first end of the first connecting strut longitudinally and circumferentially offset from the second end of the first connecting strut.

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38.(New) The stent of claim 37 wherein the first expansion column comprises a plurality of loops in the distal end region and a plurality of loops in the proximal end region, the second expansion column comprises a plurality of loops in the distal end region and a plurality of loops in the proximal end region, and each first connecting strut has a first end which extends from a side of one loop in the distal end region of the first expansion column and a second end which extends from a side of one loop in the proximal end region of the second expansion column.

39.(New) A stent comprising:

a plurality of interconnected first expansion struts, the first expansion struts forming a first serpentine expansion column having a proximal end region and a distal end region, first expansion struts which are adjacent one another connected via a curved member,

a plurality of interconnected second expansion struts, the second expansion struts forming a second serpentine expansion column having a proximal end region and a distal end region, second expansion struts which are adjacent one another connected via a curved member,

a first connecting strut column comprising a plurality of first connecting struts, each first connecting strut having a first end extending from the distal end region of the first expansion column and a second end extending from the proximal end region of the second expansion column and at least one curved portion;

the first serpentine expansion column, the second serpentine expansion column and the first connecting strut column forming a plurality of geometric cells about the circumference of